

## Message Text

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DRAFTED BY:EUR/SE:JRRATIGAN  
APPROVED BY:C:MNIMETZ  
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O 170034Z FEB 78  
FM SECSTATE WASHDC  
TO AMEMBASSY ATHENS IMMEDIATE  
USMISSION USNATO IMMEDIATE  
INFO AMEMBASSY ANKARA IMMEDIATE  
AMEMBASSY NICOSIA IMMEDIATE  
USNMR SHAPE IMMEDIATE

S E C R E T STATE 041937

C O R R E C T E D COPY(PART OF SUBJECT LINE OMITTED)

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PEPR, NATO, GR

SUBJECT:GREEK-NATO RELATIONSHIP: GREEK AMBASSADOR'S  
MEETING WITH COUNSELOR

REF: STATE 38506 (EXDIS), DTG 141827Z FEB

1. GREEK AMBASSADOR ALEXANDRAKIS, IN FEB 15 MEETING WITH  
COUNSELOR NIMETZ ARRANGED AT AMBASSADOR'S REQUEST PRIMARI-  
LY TO DISCUSS HUMAN RIGHTS ISSUES, RECALLED PREVIOUS CON-  
VERSATION WITH NIMETZ (REFTEL) RE GREECE/NATO RELATIONS.  
ALEXANDRAKIS SAID HE HAD INSTRUCTIONS INDICATING GOG

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AGREED WITH US VIEW THAT MAJORITY OF QUESTIONS RELATED TO  
GREEK-NATO RELATIONSHIP SHOULD BE FIRST DISCUSSED AT THE  
"EXPERT" (MILITARY/TECHNICAL) LEVEL, AND SHOULD BE CON-  
SIDERED TOGETHER AS PART OF PACKAGE. WHILE GOG HOPED  
CIRCUMSTANCES WOULD CHANGE SUFFICIENTLY TO PERMIT GREECE  
EVENTUALLY TO RETURN TO FULL NATO MEMBERSHIP, WE MUST  
WORK IN THE INTERIM TOWARD SOME FORM OF "SPECIAL RELATION-

SHIP" FOR GREECE. ALEXANDRAKIS ADDED THAT THE "ONLY SINE QUA NON CONDITION" IS THAT GREEK FORCES REMAIN UNDER NATIONAL COMMAND IN PEACE TIME. OTHER POINTS CAN BE NEGOTIATED AND, WITH GOOD WILL, SATISFACTORY SOLUTION REACHED. GREECE WOULD ASSUME THAT, AS CHANGES HAD BEEN MADE IN NATO COMMAND STRUCTURE REGARDING TURKEY, CHANGES COULD ALSO BE

MADE REGARDING GREECE. ALEXANDRAKIS CONCLUDED BY NOTING GOG VIEW THAT US ASSISTANCE WILL BE VERY IMPORTANT IN HELPING FIND SUBSTANTIVE SOLUTIONS AT AN EARLY DATE.

2. NIMETZ TOOK NOTE OF ALEXANDRAKIS' REMARKS AND REITERATED US HOPE THAT GREECE WOULD EVENTUALLY BE FULLY REINTEGRATED INTO NATO. HE NOTED THAT WHILE PRIME MINISTER CARAMANLIS HAS USED THE PHRASE "SPECIAL RELATIONSHIP", WE ARE MORE CONCERNED WITH ACTUAL RELATIONSHIP RATHER THAN DESCRIPTION OF THAT RELATIONSHIP.

3. ALEXANDRAKIS AGREED, NOTING THAT THE KEY ELEMENT OF SUBSTANCE INVOLVED WAS STATUS OF GREEK FORCES IN PEACE-TIME. HE HOPED FOR ADDITIONAL MOVEMENT IN COMING WEEKS.

4. NIMETZ NOTED THAT USG WOULD LIKE TO RESOLVE ISSUE AND WOULD DO ALL IT COULD TO HELP. SECRETARY CONTINUES TO BE PERSONALLY INTERESTED IN ISSUE.

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5. AT CONCLUSION CONVERSATION, NIMETZ INFORMED ALEXANDRAKIS THAT HE AND SMALL GROUP WOULD BE IN ANKARA WEEK OF FEB 20-25 TO FOLLOW UP SECRETARY'S ANKARA VISIT AND TO DISCUSS MATTERS OF COMMON INTEREST SUCH AS CYPRUS, US-TURKISH RELATIONS, SECURITY ASSISTANCE, NATO, AND THE TURKISH ECONOMIC SITUATION. NIMETZ OFFERED TO BRIEF AMBASSADOR ON THESE DISCUSSIONS UPON HIS RETURN.

6. ALEXANDRAKIS WAS ALSO INFORMED THAT AMBASSADOR MCCLOSKEY HAD RECENTLY RETURNED TO WASHINGTON, THAT HIS CONFIRMATION HEARING HAD BEEN SCHEDULED FOR FEB 24, AND THAT MCCLOSKEY LOOKED FORWARD TO EARLY MEETING WITH ALEXANDRAKIS. VANCE

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## Message Attributes

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